

## **2004**

Officials order 2nd-highest type of inquiry due to cost of incident

By FRANK MUNGER, munger@knews.com May 19, 2004

OAK RIDGE - The U.S. Department of Energy on Tuesday upgraded its investigation of a radioactive spill that contaminated four roads, including state Highway 95.

Federal officials ordered a formal Type B investigation after it became apparent the cost of the weekend incident would be between \$1 million and \$2.5 million, said Steven Wyatt, DOE's director of public affairs.

## **2005**

No Risk of Contamination, But Reynolds Wants Investigation  
<http://www.wivb.com/Global/story.asp?S=3887404&nav=0Rae>

Oct 28, 2005 11:55 AM PDT

(Buffalo, NY, September 22, 2005) - - Congressman Tom Reynolds is demanding a full fed investigation of the Buffalo derailment of a rail car used to carry nuclear waste. However, authorities tell News 4 Investigative Reporter Luke Moretti the risk of radioactive contamination was minimal.

Authorities say one train sideswiped another, causing a spent nuclear fuel container to tip on its side. Nearby resident Wayne Kind said, "Whoa. That's not too good. There better be some sort of investigation, and 'we want answers'."

The stainless steel container, on its way to a naval shipyard in Maine, was empty. Testing showed no release of radioactivity, and no danger to the public. Still, this kind of derailment, so close to the neighborhood, is raising eyebrows.

Nearby resident Roberta Penkalski said, "With everything going on in our country, you don't think I would think it would be a wake-up call for them, to do something about it, you know, to protect the people who are living in the areas."

Congressman Tom Reynolds is calling for a federal investigation of the incident.

Reynolds, Republican of Clarence, said, "How much of this type of traffic do we have coming through our city? Are all procedures followed, as we look at shipments like this, coming on the tracks?"

Federal, state and local officials responded, and while potentially dangerous shipments travel through Buffalo periodically, local first responders say they're never notified of when and where they're rolling through town.

<http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F70E11F63D5E0C738DDDAB0894DD404>

U.S. Audit Criticizes Federal Regulators Over Methods of Railroad Safety Oversight

By WALT BOGDANICH (NYT) National Desk Feb 10, 2005

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DISPLAYING ABSTRACT - America's four biggest railroads suffer from substantial and systemic safety problems, according to a new federal audit that raises questions about how well federal regulators are overseeing the rail industry. Citing a series of serious accidents in recent months, the Transportation Department's inspector general said he was concerned that "all 1 copies

## 2006

Low Level Radioactive Transport Leaks in Utah - NRC

REUTERS USA: February 27, 2006

<http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/35321/story.htm>

LOS ANGELES - Low level radioactive water from a Southern California nuclear power plant leaked from a transport truck this week on its way to a waste site in Utah, the US Nuclear Regulatory Agency reported.

The leak provides no threat to the public, said NRC spokesman Scott Burnell.

News & Observer Oct 26, 2007

Shearon Harris: Train derailed at plant By John Murawski, Staff Writer

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/750470.html>

Rail cars on a train carrying spent radioactive nuclear fuel derailed at the Shearon Harris nuclear plant in Wake County Thursday at 6:57 p.m. But the nuclear waste sustained no damage and there were no injuries, according to Progress Energy.

The train accident occurred on the nuclear plant property, about 25 miles southwest of Raleigh.

The train was traveling at about 4 m.p.h. to 5 m.p.h. and remained upright after the accident. Two rail cars jumped the tracks - a caboose and an empty flatbed car that was used as a buffer car. When transported by rail, nuclear waste is protected by reinforced concrete casks weighting 75 tons that are designed to withstand high-speed impact.

The cause of the accident was human error in preparing the tracks for the arrival of the train, according to Progress.

The train was transporting spent nuclear fuel from the company's Brunswick nuclear plant south of Wilmington.

The company alerted local law enforcement and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as required by law.

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